

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. 102 (e)

5 Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al.

Response

10 Claim 15 has been amended by adding limitations of previously presented Claim 16. Claim 16 was deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of its base claim. Since Claim 16 has been merged into Claim 15, currently amended Claim 15 should therefore be deemed allowable, as per Examiner's comments in the section 'Allowable Subject Matter'. Consideration of the currently amended claim 15 is respectfully requested.

2. Allowable subject matter

15 Claims 1 – 14 were deemed allowable by the Examiner over the prior art of record. The applicant is grateful to the Examiner for this allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Appl. No. 10/605,120
Amdt. dated October 03, 2006
Reply to Office action of August 07, 2006

Sincerely yours,



Date: 10/03/2006

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